

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 STR-08 SWF-02 COME-00 L-03

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 NEA-14 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /112 W

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R 162235Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8116

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3573

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EAGR PN

SUBJECT: SUGAR

REF: STATE 191577

1. EMBOFF PANAMA AND AGATT RECENTLY SPENT HALF DAY WITH JULIO SOSA, MANAGER OF LA VICTORIA (HE IS ALSO CHIEF SPOKESMAN FOR PANAMANIAN SUGAR INDUSTRY) VIEWING SITE FOR A NEW LA VICTORIA II MILL. DURING CONVERSATIONS HE INDICATED A STRONG AWARENESS THAT CURRENT SUGAR EXPORT PERFORMANCE WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ANY POSSIBLE FUTURE QUOTA CONSIDERATIONS. HE SAID THAT ALL OF PANAMA'S SUGAR WOULD GO TO U.S. IN 1974 AND THAT NONE HAD BEEN DIVERTED TO WORLD MARKET. BOTH LA VICTORIA AND ONE OF OTHER MILLS STARTING TO MAKE COMMITMENTS FOR EARLY 1975 DELIVERY.

2. SUGAR EXPORTS THUS FAR WERE GIVEN AT 64,000 SHORT TONS. THERE ARE PLANS TO SHIP 2,000 TONS IN OCTOBER AND POSSIBLY 3,000 TONS OF REFINED SUGAR LATER IN 1974. THIS LATTER SHIPMENT WILL DEPEND UPON LOCAL CONSUMPTION NEEDS AND IS BEING HELD AS A RESERVE. PANAMA'S OBJECTIVE IS TO EXPORT TO THE U.S. 70,000 TONS IN 1974, ACCORDING TO SOSA.

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3. EXPORTS FOR 1975 WERE ESTIMATED AT 85,000 SHORT TONS.
ALL WILL GO TO U.S. IF THAT MUCH QUOTA GRANTAS. IF NO
QUOTA, SOME EXPORTS COULD GO TO WORLD MARKET, BUT SOSA
SAID THAT U.S. IS NATURAL MARKET FOR PANAMANIAN SUGAR.
HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING RECENT TRADE BI-LATERAL WITH
ALGERIA,(INCLUDES SUGAR) ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVES VISITED
MAJOR SUGAR PORT OF AGUA DULCE AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD
BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO SEND SHIPS FOR PANAMIAN SUGAR

DUE TO LIMITED DRAFT OF PORT.
LANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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